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CLASSIFICATION
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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) 25X1
TOPIC General Military Information from the Soviet Zone of Germany 25X1
EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C
DATE OF CONTENT late September to 22 October 1951
DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED
REFERENCES 1 sketch on ditto
PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS A summary of paragraphs 5, 6 and 9 previously reported by same sources.
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1. The houses on Jaegerstrasse, Oranienburg (N 53/Z 67), were vacated by their civilian residents on 10 October 1951. The evacuees were assigned to the building at the intersection of Bernauer Allee and Friedrichstrasse, which had been derequisitioned by the Soviets for this purpose. (1)
2. The building site south of Bad Saarow was placed off limits at the end of September, and wooden sheds for German laborers were erected in its northern section. The construction project was supervised by the Bauunion, Potsdam, and its cost was estimated at several million eastmarks. According to rumors, a modern hospital will be built. (2)
3. 25X1X
learned that barracks installations costing 9 million eastmarks were to be constructed there for the Soviet Army. It was said that quarters at Pieskow, used by Soviet Army troops up to that time, would be assigned to the German Volkspolizei upon completion of the new barracks installation. (2)
4. Troops were seen practising against an attack by parachutists near Elstal at the Doeberitz (N 53/Z 65) troop training grounds on 15 October. Dummies were suspended from the descending parachutes, which were attacked with bayonets on reaching the ground. The exercise was repeated several times that day.
5. 25X1X
On 17 October, learned that the Buergemeisters of Mahrstedt, Insel, Buchholz and Luedoritz, southwest of Stendal (N 53/Y 85), were ordered to discontinue drainage work immediately, on the ground that a large-scale field exercise would be held in the area during the next few days. (3)
6. A railroadman stated that three troop trains were unloaded in Rathenow (N 53/Z 15) on 20 October. It was said that tank troops started field exercises near Barnewitz, Kreis Rathenow, on the same day. (4)

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7. On 20 October, most of the troops in Camp Zehden (N 54/U 81) troop training grounds began to establish a large circumference around the camp area. Most of the troops were seen riding on trucks. Almost no tanks or heavy weapons were seen. (5)

8. A convoy of 14 trucks with numbers of the [redacted] was seen entering the Luftnachrichten station on the north side of Schoenowerstrasse, Bernau (N 53/Z 96), on 22 October. The trucks carried a total of about 60 soldiers who wore red and black epaulets with artillery insignia. (6)

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9. A convoy of an undetermined number of trucks towing 24 artillery pieces was seen driving toward Burg (N 53/Y 61) between Pabsdorf and Stargelitz on 19 October. [redacted]

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At 7 a.m. on 21 October, a convoy of trucks towing 18 artillery pieces and 4 x 37-mm AA guns passed through Gross Fuesbars, coming from the direction of Altenrabow and driving toward Burg. [redacted]

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At 10 a.m. on 22 October, another truck convoy with 18 AA guns of 70-mm to 80-mm [redacted]

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drove in the same direction. All of the vehicles were marked with a white circle on the back. (7)

10. Fourteen rocket launchers, [redacted] were entrained at the freight yard of Juckerbog II at and after 11:30 a.m. on 21 October. The departure of the train was not observed. (3)

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Comments.

(1) The scheduled evacuation of Germans living on Jaegerstrasse, Hubertusstrasse and Schuetzenstrasse was previously reported by several sources. [redacted]

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(2) [redacted] a hutment capable of billeting 3,000 to 4,000 men would be constructed. For a sketch showing the location of the construction site, see Annex.

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(3) The area concerned is located southwest of Stendal, between Stendal and Letzling Heath. The information indicates the possibility that maneuvers will be conducted despite previous indications to the contrary. They may be restricted to the Letzling Heath area and its vicinity, although this assumption is contradicted to some extent by the movements of major units observed in the Kyritz area on 19 and 20 October 1951. [redacted]

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(4) Barnowitz is located about 25 km east of Rathenow. The tank exercises apparently conducted there probably involved components of the 1st Lecz Div. Several tank components of this division were reported to have gone to Rathenow by rail in September and early October 1951. It is possible that three of those trains, which were reported to have been loaded on 8 October allegedly for shipment to Dessau, actually went to Rathenow. [redacted]

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(5) Tanks and heavy weapons may have participated in other field exercises. One [redacted] the 175th Tank Regt of the 25th Tank Div departed for field exercises on the Elbe River on 8 October; [redacted] observed a motor column of the same division at Kyritz on 19 October 1951. [redacted]

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